AIR POLLUTION CONTROL TECHNOLOGY

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An ETV Program

1999

About APCT

The Research Triangle Institute (RTI) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are partners in the Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) program for Air Pollution Control Technology (APCT). Through this program, RTI works with industry to verify the environmental performance of commercial-ready air pollution control technologies. RTI evaluates air pollution control technology performance to provide potential purchasers and permitters with an independent and credible assessment of what they are buying and permitting. Verification includes tests using approved protocols, and findings are reported in verification statements signed by EPA. ⌘

Benefits of the APCT Program

The APCT program benefits technology developers and vendors, users and purchasers, permitters, and the public. Because the technologies are verified by RTI, which is an independent, objective third party, there are assurances that the findings are based on high-quality, credible, consistent, useful, and widely accepted performance data and procedures. Technology verification provides many benefits:

For developers and vendors

- Gives sound science-based marketing tool
- Reduces costs for advertising and marketing
- Expands markets and business opportunities
- Enhances regulatory acceptance
- Accelerates new or improved technologies into the marketplace
- Adds confidence for investors and lenders

For users and purchasers

- Allows easier evaluation of competing technologies
- Facilitates permitting process
- Reduces noncompliance risks

For permitters

- Makes job easier
- Adds confidence in control systems performance. ⌘

Today's News

Stakeholders Advisory Committee Formed

RTI has a 22-member Stakeholders Advisory Committee (SAC) to provide guidance and direction to the Air Pollution Control Technology program. Members of SAC include a cross-section of interest groups, including developers and vendors, users and industry representatives, government agencies, professional and technical associations, consultants, environmental advocates, and financial investors. The group has met five times, and minutes of the meetings appear on the APCT program Web site: http://etv.rti.org/apct/advisory/index.html.

Control Technologies

Vendors and developers have submitted to RTI nominations for 24 technologies to be candidates for verification testing. A candidate technology nomination form can be downloaded at http://etv.rti.org/apct/tech/index.html. The technologies were categorized according to pollutants controlled as follows: hazardous air pollutants, fine particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, and sulfur dioxide. Since time and resources are not available to begin testing all of the candidates immediately, some prioritization was necessary. RTI and the SAC developed the following factors to prioritize the candidate technologies: (1) importance of the air pollution problem addressed; (2) commercial availability, including multiple vendors for the control technology; (3) availability of emission test methods; (4) interest of developers/vendors in the verification program and willingness to cover a portion of the costs to conduct and report results of verification testing; and (5) potential market for the technology.

The following five technologies have been selected to begin the process of verification testing: (1) paint overspray arrestors (POA), (2) baghouse filtration products (BFP), (3) add-on NO_X controls, (4) volatile organic hazardous air pollutants (VOHAP), and (5) wet electrostatic precipitators (wet ESP). Technical panels of experts have been formed for POA, BFP, and NO_X. POA from five vendors have been tested, and verification reports and statements will be available on the ETV Web site this summer. A second round of testing additional POA is planned for this summer. Test protocols for BFP and NO_X are in final review stages, and testing is expected to begin this summer. Preliminary work is underway for the VOHAP and wet ESP categories. ⌘

The ETV Program

The Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) program, established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), was designed to accelerate the development and commercialization of new or improved environmental technologies through third-party verification and reporting of performance. The goal of the ETV is to verify the performance characteristics of commercial-ready environmental technologies through the evaluation of objective and quality-assured data so that potential purchasers and permitters are provided with an independent and credible assessment of the technology that they are buying or permitting.

To learn more about ETV, go to: http://www.epa.gov/etv.

Engineering and Environmental Technology at RTI

The Center for Engineering and Environmental Technology (CEET) at the Research Triangle Institute (RTI) provides research studies and technical services in process research, aerosol science and exposure, air pollution control technology, contamination control, information delivery systems, environmental microbiology, and indoor air quality. Fully equipped laboratories and testing facilities with extensive instrumentation are available.

CEET is part of the Environmental Sciences and Engineering Unit at RTI, which has more than 200 researchers and staff dedicated to environmental research and technical services.

RTI represents environmental science and technology at its best. Since its founding in 1958, RTI has built a solid reputation in almost every aspect of environmental protection.

RTI is an independent research enterprise that serves government and industry clients worldwide. RTI's 180-acre campus is located in the center of North Carolina's Research Triangle Park. With a staff of over 1,600 and 600,000 square feet of office and laboratory facilities, RTI offers a highly diverse set of technical capabilities.

RTI scientists and engineers conduct research and provide technical services in environmental protection, advanced technologies, public policy, international development, and health and medicine.

For more information about RTI or the APCT program

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